For Immediate Release: December 7, 2006

CONTACT: Michael Randall, Counsel for NH Employment Security (603) 528-9359

New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) Prosecutes Case to Defraud State of New Hampshire

On Friday November 3, 2006, Fred A. Munson, Jr. of New Durham was convicted in the Rochester District Court of 7 counts of fraud by non-disclosure in violation of the Unemployment Compensation Statute. He was sentenced to 90 days in the House of Correction and a one thousand dollars fine plus a 20% penalty assessment. Imprisonment was deferred for two years conditioned upon good behavior, payment of restitution and community service at the direction of the NH Department of Employment Security. He was ordered to make restitution of \$1,660 plus an administrative fee of 17% through the NH Department of probation.

Mr. Munson began lawfully collecting unemployment benefits after becoming unemployed. After returning to work, he continued filing for benefits without disclosing his new employment. Unemployment fraud is frequently discovered when NHES computers compare the information claimants list on weekly applications for benefits to the quarterly wage reports filed by their employers. This includes reports of persons who may be collecting benefits fraudulently in New Hampshire while they are employed in other states. Employers also report to the state all new hires.

The New Hampshire Department of Employment Security is aggressively seeking convictions in fraudulent unemployment insurance cases. "We are committed to providing unemployment insurance benefits that are fair and benefit the great majority of workers who are honest," said Commissioner Brothers. "The small minority who break the rules face serious consequences."

Suspected Unemployment Insurance fraud can be reported by calling 1-800-852-3400 Ext. 4016. For additional information, go to http://www.nhes.state.nh.us and select Employment Security Division, Unemployment Insurance, and Fraud.

END